

Department of Justice

United States Attorney Timothy M. Morrison Southern District of Indiana

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, February 23, 2010 http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/ins/

CONTACT: MARY BIPPUS (317) 229-2403 mary.bippus@usdoj.gov

RICHMOND MAN SENTENCED FOR POSSESSION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

PRESS RELEASE

INDIANAPOLIS - Michael D. Handley, 54, Richmond, Indiana, was sentenced to 88 months in prison late Friday by U.S. District Judge Larry J. McKinney following his guilty plea to Possession of Child Pornography. This case was the result of a investigation by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Acting on a tip, Special Agents with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement approached Handley at his residence in Richmond, Indiana, on September 20, 2007. Handley agreed to a search of his residence and computer equipment, and agents discovered a vast, well organized collection of child pornography. Handley admitted to collecting and viewing the child pornography.

According to Assistant U.S. Attorney A. Brant Cook, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge McKinney also imposed lifetime supervised release following Handley's release from prison. During the period of supervised release, Handley must have no computer use unless monitored, attend and comply with sex offender treatment and have no unsupervised contact with minors, among other conditions. Handley was ordered to make restitution in the amount of \$1000 to one of the minors depicted in the images he possessed.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.